## CLAIMS

## What is claimed is:

1. A pump casing for a centrifugal pump, comprising:

a volute section having a discharge formed therein and having a cutwater positioned adjacent said discharge;

a suction side; and

a drive side;

where at least one of said suction side or said drive side is further configured as a side liner having a non-circular perimeter edge for attachment to said volute section.

- 2. The pump casing of claim 1 wherein both said suction side and said drive side are structured as side liners.
- 3. The pump casing of claim 2 wherein both said suction side liner and said drive side liner have non-circular perimeter edges for attachment to said volute section.
- 4. The pump casing of claim 1 wherein said drive side is structured as a side liner with a non-circular perimeter edge.
- 5. The pump casing of claim 4 wherein said suction side is structured as a side liner and has a circular perimeter for attachment to said volute section.
  - 6. The pump casing of claim 1 wherein said volute section has a peripheral

profile extending from said cutwater to said discharge, said volute section profile having an open cutwater configuration.

- 7. The pump casing of claim 1 wherein said side liner is further structured a radially extending portion oriented toward said cutwater.
- 8. The pump casing of claim 7 wherein said radially extending portion is further structured with a wear resistant insert positioned in proximity to said cutwater.
- 9. A pump casing for a centrifugal pump, comprising:
  a volute section having a discharge formed therein and having a cutwater positioned
  adjacent said discharge;

a suction side attached to said volute section;

a drive side attached to said volute section; and

where at least one of either said suction side or said drive side has a perimeter edge and a radially extending portion oriented toward said cutwater.

- 10. The pump casing of claim 9 wherein said perimeter edge of said at least one side is non-circular.
- 11. The pump casing of claim 10 wherein said at least one side is formed as a side liner.

- 12. The pump casing of claim 11 wherein said side liner is on said drive side.
- 13. The pump casing of claim 11 wherein said side liner is on said suction side.
- 14. The pump casing of claim 9 wherein said at least one side having a radially extending portion is further comprised with a perimeter edge at least a portion of which is circular.
- 15. The pump casing of claim 14 wherein said radially extending portion has an apex and a radial distance  $D_P$  which is greater than the radius of said portion of said side which is circular.
- 16. The pump casing of claim 15 wherein said volute section has a peripheral profile extending from said cutwater to said discharge, said volute section profile having an open cutwater configuration.
- 17. The pump casing of claim 9 wherein said radially extending portion is further configured with a wear resistant insert positioned in said radially extending portion in proximity to said cutwater.
- 18. A pump casing for a centrifugal pump, comprising: a volute section having a cutwater;

- a drive side connected to said volute section;
- a suction side connected to said volute section; and
- a radially extending portion oriented toward said cutwater and positioned on at least one of said drive side or said suction side to localize wear on said casing to said radially extending portion.
- 19. The pump casing of claim 18 wherein said radially extending portion is positioned on said drive side.
- 20. The pump casing of claim 18 wherein said radially extending portion is positioned on said suction side.